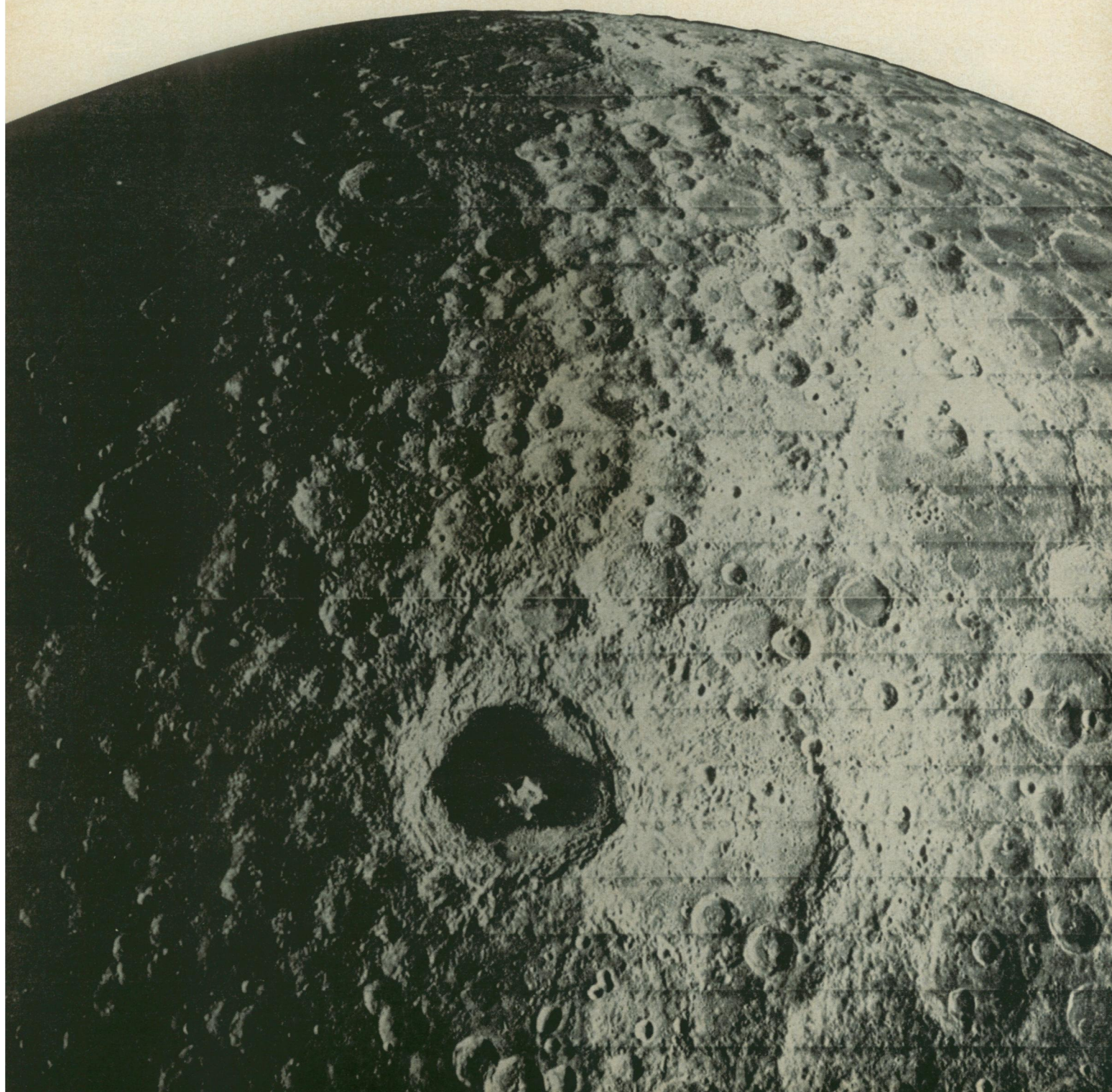


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Science of the moon's far side



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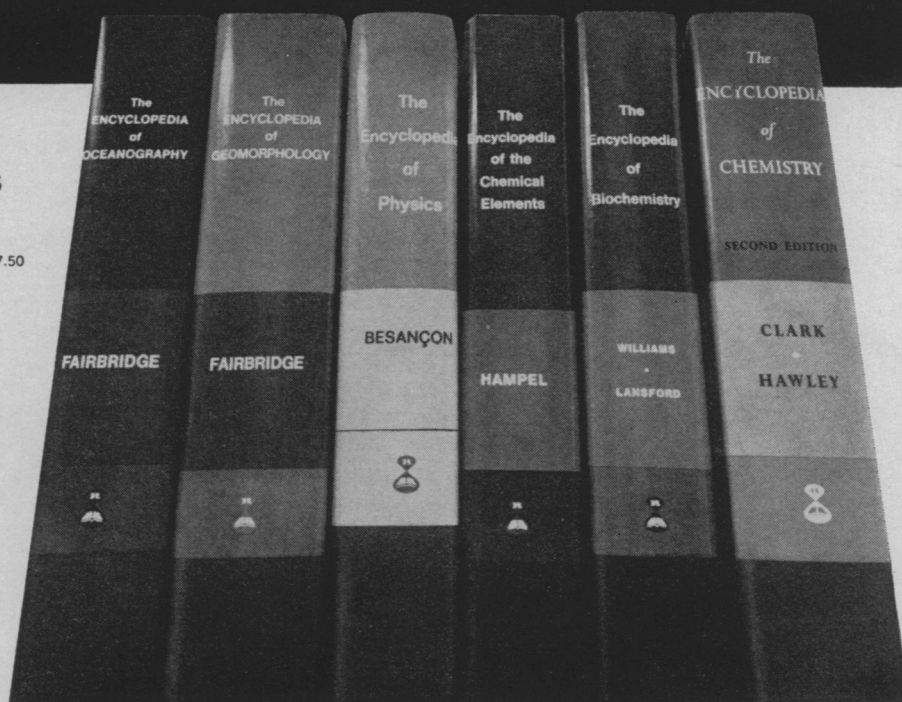
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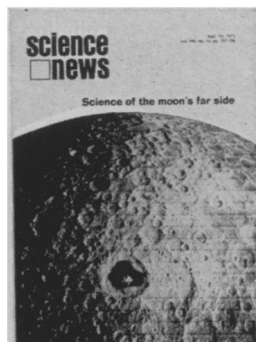
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Not until 1959 when the Russian spacecraft Luna 3 passed by the moon, did man get his first glimpse of the unknown far side. In contrast with the near side, which always faces the earth, the far side has only a few craters that have been flooded by lava. Tsiolkovsky crater with its central peaks rising above a lava-flooded floor, is one of those basins. Scientists would like to land a spacecraft there. North is at the bottom. See p. 194. (Lunar Orbiter photo: NASA)

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